AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims of the application:

Claim 1 (Previously Presented) A communication method in which a sink apparatus connected to a predetermined network receives stream data via said network sent from a source apparatus connected to said network, comprising the steps of:

sending a command to said sink apparatus from one of said source apparatus and an other apparatus connected to said network to configure a stream data receiving section of said sink apparatus to receive said stream data sent from said source apparatus;

preparing a response to said command from said sink apparatus indicating that a configuration of said data receiving section is at least temporarily disabled when said sink apparatus receives said command; and

executing corresponding processing when said apparatus that transmitted said command receives said response data indicating that said configuration of said data receiving section is at least temporarily disabled.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented) The communication method according to claim 1, wherein said response indicating that said configuration of said data receiving section is at least temporarily disabled is data indicating that said sink apparatus is placed in a standby state although a connection within said sink apparatus has been completed to allow said

sink apparatus to input said stream data.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented) The communication method according to claim 2, wherein said source apparatus transmits said stream data as said corresponding processing when said apparatus that transmitted said command receives said response indicating that said configuration of said data receiving section is at least temporarily disabled and a connection between said source apparatus and said sink apparatus on said network is completed.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented) The communication method according to claim 1, wherein said response indicating that said configuration of said data receiving section is at least temporarily disabled is data indicating that said sink apparatus cannot input said stream data although said connection within said sink apparatus has been completed to allow said sink apparatus to input said stream data and said connection between said source apparatus and said sink apparatus on said network has been completed.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented) The communication method according to claim 4, wherein when said apparatus that transmitted said command receives said response indicating that said configuration is at least temporarily disabled, said apparatus that transmitted said command performs polling to determine whether said sink apparatus is ready to input said stream data and said source apparatus transmits said stream data as said corresponding processing when it is determined

that said sink apparatus is ready to input said stream data.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented) The communication method according to claim 4, wherein when said apparatus that transmitted said command receives said response indicating that said configuration is at least temporarily disabled, said apparatus that transmitted said command transmits a command notifying that said sink apparatus is ready to input said stream data as said corresponding processing and when said apparatus that transmitted said command receives a command indicating that a status of said sink apparatus is changed said source apparatus starts transmitting said stream data.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented) The communication method according to claim 1, wherein said response indicating that said configuration is at least temporarily disabled is data indicating that a connection between said source apparatus and said sink apparatus on said network has failed although a connection within said sink apparatus has been completed to allow said sink apparatus to input said stream data.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented) The communication method according to claim 1, wherein when said apparatus that transmitted said command receives said response indicating that said configuration is at least temporarily disabled, said apparatus that transmitted said command performs polling to determine whether a connection between said source apparatus and said sink apparatus has been completed and said source apparatus transmits said stream data as said corresponding

processing when it is determined by said apparatus that transmitted said command that said connection between said source apparatus and said sink apparatus has been completed.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented) The communication method according to claim 7, wherein when said apparatus that transmitted said command receives said response indicating that said configuration is at least temporarily disabled said apparatus that transmitted said command transmits a command notifying that a connection between said source apparatus and said sink apparatus has been completed and when said apparatus that transmitted said command receives a command indicating that a status is changed said source apparatus starts transmitting said stream data as said corresponding processing.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented) The communication method according to claim 1, wherein said response indicating that said configuration is at least temporarily disabled is data indicating that a time period required when said sink apparatus becomes ready to process said stream data is longer than an ordinary time period by a constant time.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented) A communication method in which a sink apparatus connected to a predetermined network receives stream data via said network outputted from a source apparatus connected to said network, comprising the steps of:

sending a first command to said sink apparatus from one of said source apparatus and an other apparatus connected to

said network to configure a stream data receiving section of said sink apparatus to receive said stream data sent from said source apparatus;

confirming by analyzing a response to said first command that an internal connection in said sink apparatus for receiving said stream data has been completed and that a connection between said source apparatus and said sink apparatus on said network has been completed;

transmitting a second command to said sink apparatus from one of said source apparatus and said other apparatus connected to said network to confirm that said sink apparatus is ready to receive said stream data sent from said source apparatus; and

enabling said source apparatus to start transmitting said stream data when it is confirmed that said sink apparatus is able to receive said stream data sent from said source apparatus by analyzing a response to said second command.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented) The communication method according to claim 11, further comprising the steps of transmitting said first command; issuing an interim response when said sink apparatus cannot issue a response based on said first command within a predetermined time; and confirming by said response based on said first command whether a connection has been completed to allow said sink apparatus to input said stream data.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented) The communication method according to claim 11, further comprising the step of re-

transmitting said second command when it is determined by said response based on said second command that said sink apparatus is not able to input said stream data.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented) The communication method according to claim 11, wherein after it has been confirmed by said response based on said second command that said sink apparatus is not able to input said stream data and that said sink apparatus is ready to input said stream data it is confirmed whether said source apparatus and said sink apparatus are connected through said network.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented) The communication method according to claim 11, further comprising the step of transmitting a notifying command for notifying that a status in which said sink apparatus is ready to input said stream data is changed and when it is confirmed by a response based on said command that said sink apparatus is ready to input said stream data said source apparatus starts transmitting said stream data.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented) The communication method according to claim 11, further comprising the step of transmitting a notifying command for notifying that a status in which said sink apparatus is ready to input said stream data is changed and when it is confirmed that said sink apparatus is not able to input said stream data and that said sink apparatus is ready to input said stream data it is confirmed whether said source apparatus and said sink

apparatus are connected through said network.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented) The communication method according to claim 11, further comprising the step of transmitting to said source apparatus a confirmation command to confirm whether said source apparatus is ready to transmit said stream data and when it is confirmed by a response based on said confirmation command that said source apparatus is ready to transmit said stream data said source apparatus starts transmitting said stream data.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented) The communication method according to claim 11, further comprising the step of transmitting to said source apparatus a confirmation command to confirm whether said source apparatus is ready to transmit said stream data and when it is determined by a response based on said confirmation command that said source apparatus is not ready to transmit stream data said confirmation command is re-transmitted to said source apparatus.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented) The communication method according to claim 11, further comprising the step of transmitting a notifying command notifying that ~~the~~ a status in which said source apparatus is ready to transmit said stream data is changed and when it is determined by a response based on said notifying command that said source apparatus is ready to transmit said stream data said source apparatus starts transmitting said stream data.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented) The communication method according to claim 11, wherein one of said source apparatus and said other apparatus connected to said network transmits a command to energize said sink apparatus before said first command is transmitted.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented) The communication method according to claim 11, wherein when said sink apparatus receives said first command said sink apparatus is energized.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented) The communication method according to claim 11, wherein one of said source apparatus and said other apparatus connected to said network is continuously executing display processing notifying that transmission of said stream data is placed in ~~the~~ a standby mode until confirmation by said response based on said second command that said sink apparatus is ready to input said stream data.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented) The communication method according to claim 11, wherein one of said source apparatus and said other apparatus connected to said network is continuously executing display processing notifying that transmission of said stream data is placed in a standby mode until confirmation by a response based on a command notifying that a status in which said sink apparatus is ready to input said stream data is changed that said sink apparatus is ready to input said stream data.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented) A communication apparatus connected to a predetermined network, comprising:

input and output means for communicating with at least one other apparatus connected to said network; and

communication control means for detecting a command received at said input and output means to enable said input and output means to receive stream data from a predetermined apparatus and enabling said input and output means to transmit data indicating that a stream data configuration is at least temporarily disabled to an other apparatus that transmitted said command when an input of said stream data is at least temporarily disabled.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 24, wherein said data indicating that said stream data configuration is at least temporarily disabled are data indicating that said input and output means is placed in a standby mode although an internal connection for supplying said stream data received by said input and output means to stream data processing means has been completed.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 24, wherein said data indicating said stream data configuration are data indicating that said input and output means is disabled to input said stream data although an internal connection for supplying said stream data received by said input and output means to stream data processing means has been completed and a connection between a

stream data output section of said predetermined apparatus and said input and output means has been completed.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 24, wherein said data indicating that said stream data configuration is at least temporarily disabled are data indicating that a connection between a stream data output section of said predetermined device and said input and output means on said network has failed although an internal connection for supplying said stream data received by said input and output means to stream data processing means has been completed.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 24, wherein said data indicating that said stream data configuration are data indicating that a time period required until stream data processing means becomes ready to process stream data received by said input and output means is longer than an ordinary time period by a constant time.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented) A communication apparatus connected to a predetermined network, comprising:

input and output means for communicating with at least one other apparatus connected to said network; and

communication control means for enabling said input and output means to output a command for enabling said at least one other apparatus connected to said network to input stream data , whereby when it is determined by a response to said

command that said at least one other apparatus is at least temporarily not able to receive said command output of said stream data from said input and output means is paused until said at least one other apparatus is able to receive said command.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 29, wherein polling is performed to determine whether said at least one other apparatus is able to input said stream data and when is determined that said at least one other apparatus is able to input said stream data said input and output means starts transmitting said stream data.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 29, wherein a notifying command notifying that said at least one other apparatus is able to input said stream data is transmitted from said input and output means to said at least one other apparatus under control of said communication control means and when said input and output means receives said notifying command indicating that a status of said at least one other apparatus is changed said input and output means starts transmitting said stream data.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented) A communication apparatus connected to a predetermined network, comprising:

input and output means for communicating with at least one other apparatus connected to said network;

communication control means whereby when a first command for enabling said input and output means to receive stream data from a predetermined other apparatus is detected at said input and output means a connection is established within said communication apparatus to allow said input and output means to input said stream data, a connection between said communication apparatus and said predetermined other apparatus is executed, and data notifying that processing has been completed are transmitted from said input and output means to said predetermined other apparatus when said processing is completed; and

communication control means whereby when a second command for executing a predetermined confirmation indicating that said communication apparatus is ready to input said stream data is detected data notifying that said communication apparatus is ready to input said stream data is transmitted from said input and output means to an other apparatus that transmitted said second command.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 32, wherein said communication control means receives said first command, issues an interim response when said communication control means cannot issue a response based on said first command within a predetermined time, and in a subsequent response based on said first command said communication control means data are transmitted from said input and output means to said other apparatus that transmitted said first command indicating that a connection has been completed within said communication apparatus to

allow said input and output means to input said stream data.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 32, wherein when it is determined by a response based on said second command that said input and output means is not ready to input said stream data said communication control means transmits data notifying that said input and output means is not ready to input said stream data from said input and output means to said other apparatus that transmitted said second command.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 32, wherein said other apparatus that transmitted said first and second command issues a command for confirming a connection between said other apparatus and said predetermined apparatus on said network after confirmation by said other apparatus from a response based on said second command that said predetermined apparatus is not ready to input said stream data and that said predetermined apparatus is ready to input said stream data; and when said communication control means detects said command said communication control means transmits data notifying a connected state on said network from said input and output means to said other apparatus command.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 32, wherein said communication control means transmits data notifying whether said predetermined apparatus is ready to input said stream data

from said input and output means to said other apparatus that transmitted said command when said communication control means receives a command notifying that a status in which said predetermined apparatus is ready to input said stream data is changed, and said communication control means transmits data notifying that a status in which said predetermined apparatus is ready to input said stream data is changed from said input and output means to said apparatus that transmitted said command.

Claim 37 (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 32, wherein said apparatus that transmitted said command issues a confirmation command for confirming a connection between said apparatus that transmitted said command and said predetermined apparatus after confirmation by said apparatus that transmitted said command from a response based on a notifying command notifying that a status in which said predetermined apparatus is ready to input said stream data is changed that said predetermined apparatus is not ready to input said stream data and that said predetermined apparatus is ready to input said stream data and said communication control means transmits data notifying a connection state on said network from said input and output means to said apparatus that transmitted said command when said communication control means detects said command.

Claim 38 (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 32, wherein when said communication apparatus receives said first command said

communication apparatus is energized.

Claim 39 (Previously Presented) A communication apparatus connected to a predetermined network, comprising:

input and output means for communicating with at least one other apparatus connected to said network; and

communication control means for controlling said input and output means to output a first command for setting said at least one other apparatus to allow said at least one other apparatus to input stream data and to output a second command for confirming whether said at least one other apparatus is ready to input said stream data.

Claim 40 (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 39, wherein said input and output means re-transmits said second command when said communication control means determines by a response based on said second command that said at least one other apparatus is not ready to input said stream data.

Claim 41 (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 39, wherein said input and output means outputs a command for confirming whether said at least one other apparatus is connected to said network after said communication control means determines by a response based on said second command that said at least one other apparatus is not ready to input said stream data and that an other apparatus connected to said network is ready to input said stream data.

Claim 42 (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 39, further comprising communication control means for controlling said input and output means to output a notifying command notifying that a status indicating said at least one other apparatus is ready to input said stream data is changed.

Claim 43 (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 39, wherein said input and output means outputs a confirmation command for confirming whether said at least one other apparatus is connected to said network after said communication control means determines by a response based on a command notifying a change of a status in which said at least one other device is ready to input said stream data, that an other apparatus connected to said network is ready to input stream data and said at least one other apparatus is not ready to input said stream data.

Claim 44 (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 39, further comprising communication control means for controlling said input and output means to output a confirmation command for confirming whether said at least one other device is ready to transmit said stream data.

Claim 45 (Currently Amended) The communication apparatus according to claim 39, further comprising communication control means for controlling said input and output means to

output a notifying command notifying a change of a status indicating that said at least one other apparatus is ready to transmit said stream data.

Claim 46 (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 39, wherein said communication control means controls said input and output means to output an energizing command for energizing said at least one other apparatus before said input and output means transmits said first command.

Claim 47 (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 39, wherein transmission of said stream data is paused until said communication control means determines by a response based on said second command that said at least one other apparatus is ready to input said stream data.

Claim 48 (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 39, wherein transmission of said stream data is paused until said communication control means determines by a response based on a command notifying a change of a status in which said at least one other apparatus is ready to input said stream data that said at least one other apparatus is ready to input said stream data.

Claim 49 (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 39, wherein transmission of said stream data is paused until said communication control means

determines by a response based on a confirmation command for confirming whether said at least one other apparatus is ready to transmit said stream data that said at least one other apparatus is ready to transmit said stream data.

Claim 50 (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 39, wherein transmission of said stream data is paused until said communication control means determines by a response based on a notifying command notifying a change of a status in which said at least one other apparatus is ready to transmit said stream data that said at least one other apparatus is ready to transmit said stream data.

Claim 51 (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 39, further comprising display means for displaying an indication that transmission of said stream data is paused until said communication control means determines by a response based on said second command that said at least one other apparatus is ready to input said stream data.

Claim 52 (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 39, further comprising display means for displaying an indication that transmission of said stream data is paused until said communication control means confirms by a response based on a command notifying a change of a status in which said at least one other apparatus is ready to input said stream data that said at least one other

apparatus is ready to input said stream data.

Claim 53 (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 39, wherein transmission of said stream data is started when said communication control means determines by a response based on said second command that said at least one other apparatus is ready to input said stream data.

Claim 54 (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 39, wherein transmission of said stream data is started when said communication control means determines by a response based on a command notifying a change of a status in which said at least one other apparatus is ready to input said stream data that said at least one other apparatus is ready to input said stream data.

Claim 55 (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 39, wherein transmission of stream data is started when said communication control means determines by a response based on a command for confirming whether said at least one other apparatus is ready to transmit said stream data that said at least one other apparatus is ready to transmit said stream data.

Claim 56 (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 39, wherein transmission of stream data is started when said communication control means determines by a response based on a notifying command

notifying a change of a status in which said at least one other apparatus is ready to transmit said stream data that said at least one other apparatus is ready to transmit said stream data.

Claim 57 (Previously Presented) A communication apparatus connected to a predetermined network, comprising:

input and output means for communicating with at least one other apparatus connected to said network; and

communication control means for controlling said input and output means to transmit data notifying that said at least one other apparatus is ready to transmit stream data ~~if~~ when said communication control means receives at said input and output means a command for confirming whether said at least one other apparatus is ready to transmit said stream data.

Claim 58 (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus connected to a predetermined network comprising:

input and output means for communicating with at least one other apparatus connected to said network; and

communication control means for controlling said input and output means to transmit data indicating a status in which said at least one other apparatus is ready to transmit ~~steam~~ stream data to ~~said~~ a command transmission source when said communication control means receives at said input and output means a notifying command notifying a change of a status in which said at least one other apparatus is ready to transmit said stream data and that said input and output means transmits data of said changed status ~~in which said at least~~

~~one other apparatus is ready to transmit said stream data~~ to ~~an~~ said other apparatus that transmitted said notifying command.